

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

November 25, 2007

Dear Ms. Rutson:

I am a resident of Barrington, Illinois. My home, where my family and I have lived for nine years, is less than a mile from the railroad tracks that run through Barrington. I recently heard that Canadian National Railway Company had proposed a project that would bring at least 15 more trains per day down those tracks. This announcement alarmed me greatly. I became even more concerned when I heard that this estimate did not account for large increases expected in train traffic throughout the Chicago area over the next 20 years. In fact, the original estimate does not even take into account the stated objective of new Canadian port traffic. The drastic increase in noise, traffic, and safety problems at rail crossings will affect our quality of life and the quality of the environment in my community.

While Barrington's fire and police station are only a mile from the many neighborhoods north of the tracks, the likelihood that they will be delayed in any future response to our emergency needs increases dramatically with such a material increase in the number of freight trains moving through our town, as all 3 major crossings leading to our homes are cut off when a freight train moves through.

I am sure a traffic study of the impact of 16, 20 or more trains a day running on the EJ&E line will demonstrate that the entire Barrington area will be devastated by the increase in automobile congestion.

Safety on and near the tracks is also a huge concern. Multiple crossings in the heavily populated Barrington area are just an invitation for disaster. Further, the line runs directly adjacent to two of our heavily used parks, a multitude of homes and neighborhoods.

I have been informed that you are responsible for reviewing Canadian National Railway Company's proposal. I think that the effects I discussed above warrant serious consideration before you allow Canadian National to move forward. You hold the safety and well-being of not only my family, but that of an entire region in your hands. I trust that you and the rest of the Board will thoroughly review Canadian National's proposal for any and all effects on the environment and affected communities. Please do not approve this proposal until you are certain traffic and safety will not suffer. Thank you.

Sincerely,



William A. Chapdelaine
713 ~~Barr~~ Ridge Lane
Barrington, IL
60010